Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Maharashtra, and Karnataka. Except Madhya Pradesh all the other six States are predominantly groundnut producing States. The major share of funds under this NDDB's Oilseeds Project would, therefore, go to the development of groundnut. Madhya Pradesh is included as it is a potential State for soyabean development. The development of soyabean in Madhya Pradesh had been initiated even much before the launching of NDDB's Oilseeds Project.

(c) The objectives of groundnut development have received adequate attention due to the implementation of the NDDB's Oilseeds Project.

(d) The NDDB's Oilseeds Project is not adjunct and off-shoot of the Operation Flood-II.

Losses due to Pests

2847. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports which appeared in the "Patriot" of the 18th June, 1984, of recent workshop at Kanpur regarding annual loss of Rs. 1000 crores due to failure to control pests or develop suitable resistant varieties; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government's attention has been drawn to the said report.

(b) The All India Kharif Pulse Workshop held at Kanpur in May 1984 has made several recommendations for the prevention and control of pests of kharif pulses. The main emphasis is on monitoring and survey of major pests, screening for tolerant crop varieties, cultural and biological control methods, ecological studies and chemical control.

The Workshop also recommended the formation of a separate Corporation to take up pest control service on a national level to give a boost to pulses production and to achieve national targets.

These recommendations are being examined by the Government.

Demand for waiving off of import duty on timber

2848. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka have requested the Central Government to consider the feasibility of waiving import duty on timber required by plywood industries;

(b) whether Government have initiated any action on the above suggestion of the Karnataka Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE, SUPPLY AND INDUSTRY (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) Even before the receipt of the suggestion from the Government of Karnataka this Ministry has considered the question of waiver of import duty on timber and this Ministry's views have already been communicated to the Ministry of Finance.

Landslides in Hilly Areas

2849. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some landslides took place during the recent past in various